

CONTRACT SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE RENEWAL OF THE REFUSE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION AND STREET CLEANSING CONTRACTS FOR 2001

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1. At its meeting on 9 March 2000, the Compulsory Competitive Tendering Panel considered a report by the Head of Leisure and Client Services which sought approval of the final draft specifications for the above-named contracts.
- 1.2 Attached is the relevant extract (Appendix 1) from the Minutes of the Panel's Meeting, and the Committee's endorsement of the recommendations is now sought. (The appendices referred to in the Minute will follow under separate cover).

Andrew Smith

Head of Administrative & Member Services

Background Papers:

None

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APPENDIX 1

**88 CONTRACT SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE RENEWAL OF THE
REFUSE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION AND STREET
CLEANSING CONTRACTS FOR 2001**

The Panel considered the report of the Head of Leisure and Client Services which presented the final draft specifications for the refuse and recycling collection and street cleansing contracts. In addition to the draft specifications, a timetable outlining the key dates in the contract renewal process was appended to the report. It was noted that all the new contracts were designed to ensure achievement of the standards required by the Environmental Protection Act.

Members considered the specifications in detail and, during discussions, the following main points arose:

Street Cleansing Contract

- Some Members suggested that the requirement to use a mechanical sweeper, the purchase of which had been agreed by the Council since the new contract had first been drafted, should be made explicit within the specification. Others considered that the contract documentation should seek simply to identify standards of cleanliness that the contractor would be required to meet using whatever equipment was considered appropriate.
- The frequency of town-centre cleansing was considered, and some Members considered that continuous cleansing of shopping areas, rather than a once-daily visit, was necessary. It was therefore agreed to delete the wording "once per day" from the appendix to the specification relating to street cleansing. This to be substituted by "twice a day" - am and pm and the use of mechanical sweeper to be stipulated as being a preference to manual sweeps.
- Clarification of the precise definition of "street cleansing" was requested, to determine exactly which areas of the highway/retail centres would be covered under different parts of the contract.
- It was suggested that there should be greater consistency between those areas currently identified as requiring a single daily clean and those where more frequent visits, especially at weekends, had been identified; currently some locations appeared to be included within both categories.
- The frequency of sweeps over the weekend in town centres should be re-examined to reflect the wish expressed at meetings of the

Panel in January 1999 for increased cleansing, particularly on Saturdays.

The Panel concluded discussion of the street cleansing contract by agreeing the specification but requesting that clearer, more precise explanatory appendices should be prepared for consideration by the forthcoming meeting of Transportation and Environmental Services Committee.

Refuse Collection

The Head of Housing, Health and Community Care drew Members' attention to the recycling element of the refuse collection specification, which was a recent addition to the documentation. The Panel concurred with its contents.

Regarding the remainder of the contract, Members raised the following points:

- Bank and other public holidays. (Paragraph 25). It was agreed that there should be a gap of not more than ten days between collections over the Christmas/New Year period.
- Refuse collection vehicles should not be permitted to drive over grassed verges.
- Type of refuse to be collected (paragraph 5.3). Members considered that the range of additional premises from which refuse collection may be necessary should not be identified separately, but should be covered by the wording "other sites to be determined by the local authority".
- Working Times (paragraph 7.1). It would be necessary to ensure that the working times given in the contract matched those agreed as part of the monitoring arrangements, which comprised the next item on the agenda (Minute 89).

RECOMMENDED TO THE TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

That the Contract Specification for the Refuse and Recycling Collection and Street Cleansing services be agreed, subject to revised explanatory appendices being prepared. (HLCS)